

Office of Fire Chief 316 S. Meeting Street Statesville, P.C 28677-5820 (704) 878-3425

P. G. Box 1111 . Statesville, North Carolina 28687

December 1, 2003

Marlene Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

WT Docket Number 02-55

Dear Madame Secretary,

As the chief of the Statesville Fire Department, I know how important it is for firefighters and other public safety personnel to have access to clear and reliable communication tools. But today, interference in the 800 MHz spectrum continues to threaten this access.

We cannot continue to tolerate this problem. Without clear and reliable communications firefighters simply cannot do their job in a safe environment.

I know that a number of potential fixes have been presented to the FCC to address the interference problem. I strongly believe that only the Consensus Plan for realigning the 800 MHz spectrum is truly aiming to eradicate interference. It is financially impossible for each entity to address this on a case-by-case scenario. It is this proactive approach that has led me to join my colleagues from the International Association of Fire Chiefs in supporting this plan.

Now I ask that you join me and hundreds of public safety organizations across the state and the country in voicing your support of the Consensus Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Richard Campbell, Fire Chief

CC:

Representative Richard Burr 2000 West First Street Winston Salem. N.C. 27104